



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/517,997

06/29/2005

Hyo-Young Bae

1455-045908

1604

28289

7590

03/03/2008

THE WEBB LAW FIRM, P.C.

700 KOPPERS BUILDING

436 SEVENTH AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

EXAMINER

LANGDON, EVAN H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3654

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/03/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/517,997

Applicant(s)

BAE ET AL.

Examiner

EVAN H. LANGDON

Art Unit

3654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-33 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SE-US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/14/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of Species 1, Figures 1a and 1b, in the reply filed on 07 January 2008 is acknowledged. Claims 5-33 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 07 January 2008.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bellasio (US 3,863,861).

In regard to claim 1, Bellasio discloses a welding wire tangling-prevention device for preventing tangling of a welding wire (F) received in a large-capacity pail pack (4) in the form of a vertically-extending tube-shaped wound body including eccentrically-stacked continuous spiral loops, when the welding wire is drawn out from the pail pack (4), comprising:

a ring member (5,13,14) laid on a top surface of the tube-shaped wound body (Z), the ring member (5) including an outer ring (5) having an outer diameter smaller than an inner

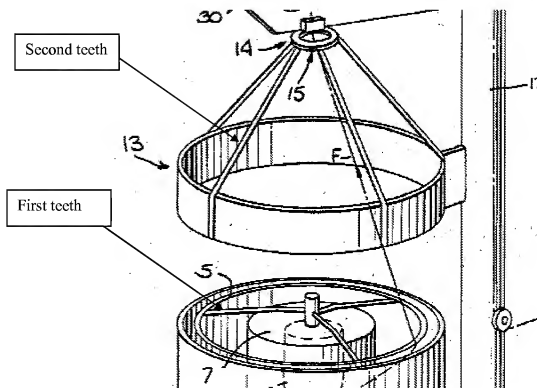
Art Unit: 3654

diameter of the pail pack (4), and an inner ring (14) having an outer diameter smaller than an inner diameter of the outer ring (5);

a plurality of first comb teeth (Fig. 1, below) extending from an inner circumferential surface of the outer ring (5) toward the inner ring (14); and

a plurality of second comb teeth (Fig. 1, below) extending from an outer circumferential surface of the inner ring (14) toward the outer ring (5),

whereby the welding wire (F) is drawn out between the outer and inner rings (5, 14).



In regard to claim 2, Bellasio discloses the first comb teeth (see above) of the outer ring (5) have a length smaller than that of the second comb teeth (see above) of the inner ring (14).

In regard to claim 3, Bellasio discloses the first and second comb teeth (see above) are alternately arranged.

In regard to claim 4, Bellasio discloses each of the first and second comb teeth (see above) has a flat strip structure.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Whellams (US 4,334,653).

In regard to claim 1, Whellams discloses a welding wire tangling-prevention device for preventing tangling of a welding wire (9) received in a large-capacity pail pack (10) in the form of a vertically-extending tube-shaped wound body including eccentrically-stacked continuous spiral loops, when the welding wire is drawn out from the pail pack (10), comprising:

a ring member (21) laid on a top surface of the tube-shaped wound body (14), the ring member (21) including an outer ring (22) having an outer diameter smaller than an inner diameter of the pail pack (10), and an inner ring (19) having an outer diameter smaller than an inner diameter of the outer ring (22);

a plurality of first comb teeth (Fig. 2, 22₁) extending from an inner circumferential surface of the outer ring (22) toward the inner ring (19); and

a plurality of second comb teeth (Fig. 2, 19₁) extending from an outer circumferential surface of the inner ring (19) toward the outer ring (22),

whereby the welding wire (9) is drawn out between the outer and inner rings (19, 22).

In regard to claim 3, Whellams discloses the first and second comb teeth (22₁, 19₁) are alternately arranged.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hirst (US 3,203,642).

In regard to claim 1, Hirst discloses a welding wire tangling-prevention device for preventing tangling of a welding wire (2) received in a large-capacity pail pack (6) in the form of a vertically-extending tube-shaped wound body including eccentrically-stacked continuous spiral loops, when the welding wire is drawn out from the pail pack (6), comprising:

a ring member (30,40) laid on a top surface of the tube-shaped wound body (38), the ring member (30,40) including an outer ring (30) having an outer diameter smaller than an inner diameter of the pail pack (6), and an inner ring (40) having an outer diameter smaller than an inner diameter of the outer ring (30);

a plurality of first comb teeth (Fig. 2, 32) extending from an inner circumferential surface of the outer ring (30) toward the inner ring (40); and

a plurality of second comb teeth (Fig. 2, 42) extending from an outer circumferential surface of the inner ring (40) toward the outer ring (30),

whereby the welding wire (2) is drawn out between the outer and inner rings (30, 40).

In regard to claim 3, Hirst discloses the first and second comb teeth (32, 42) are alternately arranged.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EVAN H. LANGDON whose telephone number is (571)272-6948. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Cuomo can be reached on (571) 272-6856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Evan H Langdon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3654

/Evan H Langdon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3654